

BMoCA



Karen Kitchel

January 31 - April 21, 2019

Karen Kitchel: Grasslands

Guest curated by Ann Daley

Karen Kitchel: Grasslands

When I first saw Karen Kitchel's paintings at her studio in Denver in 1998, I was struck by the beauty and concepts of these small gems. I found them at the same time to be contemplative, challenging, and confronting. They have as many layers of meaning as of paint. I was seeing an old world technique of applying layers of paint to produce a depth, a quality not often seen in contemporary works.

Kitchel captures our attention with the physical beauty of the work, then subtly hammers us with the message that these parts of nature that we have considered "ours" for life are rapidly vanishing. They are elegant statements about the West of the twenty-first century and the rapid changes we see, and deny seeing, around us.

To quote author and critic Michael Paglia, "Artists have long been attracted to the West, owing to its vastness, but for Kitchel the appeal of the region is not the limitless view, but rather the landscape's most intimate and close-up aspects - individual plants".

Excerpt from "Landscapes of Colorado", 2007. Co-authored by Ann Daley and Michael Paglia.



Above: Karen Kitchel, *Promontory 17*, 2004. Oil on panel. Photo courtesy of BMoCA.
Cover image: Karen Kitchel, *Larger Than Life #5 (detail)*. Oil on panel.



Above: Karen Kitchel, *Promontory 9*, 2003. Oil on panel. Photo courtesy of BMoCA.

Artist & Curator Biographies

Karen Kitchel

A native of Michigan, Karen Kitchel lived in Montana and Colorado while collecting grasses. She now paints in Ventura, California. Her work is in numerous permanent collections, including: the Denver Art Museum, Palm Springs Art Museum, Tucson Museum of Art, United States Department of State Embassies Program, the Joslyn Art Museum, and the Whitney Gallery at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. She received her BA from Kalamazoo College and MFA from Claremont Graduate University.

Karen Kitchel is represented by Robischon Gallery.

Ann Daley

Ann Daley has been active in the Denver art community since 1977 when she was hired by the Denver Art Museum to be Curator of American Art. She was Associate Curator of the Petrie Institute of Western American Art from 1997 to 2008, and has been curator of the Captiva Resources collection since 1985. Daley was the first curator of the Coors Western Art Exhibit and Sale at the National Western Stock Show, and has remained on its board of advisors. She was a member of the Commission on Arts and Venues for six years. Daley is the author of "Landscapes of Colorado", and various other publications. She received her BA in American Studies from the University of Wyoming and her MA in Art History from the University of Denver.

Exhibition-related Programs

Opening Reception

January 31

5:30pm member preview

6:30-8:30pm free public reception

Don Coen Artist Talk

Hear firsthand from exhibiting artist Don Coen about his artistic process and the life-changing events which have shaped his work.

February 21

6-7:30pm

\$12 / \$8 members

Steppe: The Grasslands that Nurtured Humankind

Explore horticultural innovations in our region and learn about the landscapes where humanity first arose and evolved with Panayoti Kelaidis, Senior Curator & Director of Outreach at Denver Botanic Gardens.

March 14

6-7:30pm

\$12 / \$8 members

Presented in partnership with *Denver Botanic Gardens*

The Politics of Immigrant Inclusion

Join us for a conversation with Celeste Montoya, Associate Professor of Women & Gender Studies, University of Colorado Boulder. Explore the impactful & often unseen roles that migrant workers play in day to day life.

April 3

6-7:30pm

\$12 / \$8 members

Free for CU students

Current & Upcoming Exhibitions

BMOCA @ Macky

Matthew Pevear: Mastering the Art of French Cooking

January 17 - May 5, 2019

Inside Out

Pard Morrison: Heartmouth

August 17 - September 1, 2019

Summer 2019 Exhibition

Clark Richert: Pattern and Dimensions

June 6 - September 15, 2019

Guest Curated by Cortney Lane Stell

Thank you to our generous sponsors for their support of this exhibit: Robin & Kevin Luff, Sue Schweppe, Nicky Wolman & David Fulker, Noel & Tom Congdon, City of Boulder, Boulder Arts Commission, Scientific & Cultural Facilities District, Colorado Creative Industries, and National Endowment for the Arts.

Please Do Not Touch Works of Art

Flash Photography Not Permitted

Boulder Museum of
Contemporary Art

BMOCA

1750 13th Street
Boulder, Colorado 80302
303.443.2122
BMOCA.org